

Serial No.: 10/007,509

REMARKS

Claims 6–21, 27, 68–76, and 85–88 are in pending in the application.

Claims 7–10, 16–18, and 69 were objected to and were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This has been done. Accordingly, claims 7–10, 16–18, and 69 now should be allowed. It is noted that claim 69 was not a dependent claim; and, therefore, claim 69 has not been amended. However, it is believed that claim 69 should be allowed in view of the indication in the last Office Action that it was allowable.

Claims 6, 11–15, 19–21, 27, 68, 70–76, and 85–88 were rejected. Withdrawal of the rejections of these claims respectfully is requested in view of the amendments made herein and the remarks below.

Previously rejected claims 6, 11, 13, 19, 27, 68, 70, 85, and 86 are amended herein.

The courtesy of Examiner Baxter in conducting a personal interview with Applicant's undersigned Attorney on Tuesday, September 27, 2005, is noted with appreciation. During that personal interview Applicant's undersigned Attorney demonstrated for Examiner Baxter a prototype of the invention. The prototype includes both a base mountable to a support and a cover attachable to the base. A magnetic device is included to support the cover from the base. A selectively operable mechanical retainer is included. The device was operated for Examiner Baxter to demonstrate the multi-retention mechanism and to show that the magnetic force is sufficient to support the cover from the base.

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During the personal interview the two applied references, Kelly U.S. Patent No. 6,181,251, and Niederost U.S. Patent No. 4,074, 341, were discussed.

Claims 70–76 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) in view of Kelly. Claims 70 points out "a second attachment that is selectively operable independently from the at least one mechanical attachment to release and hold and operates responsive to a positional relationship to support the mounting member from the base...". Examiner Baxter postulated that the two locking arms 35 of Kelly provide the at least one mechanical attachment and the second attachment that were recited in claim 1 prior to its being amended herein. As was discussed during the interview, the two locking arms 35 of Kelly are interactive in that both of them are placed in respective openings to provide a holding function. The locking arms do not operate independently. Claim 70 has been amended herein to point out that the second attachment is selectively operable independently from the at least one mechanical attachment to release and hold and operates in response to a positional relationship to support the mounting member from the base. Kelly does not disclose this. Therefore, the rejection of claim 70 and claims 71–76, which depend directly or indirectly therefrom, should be withdrawn and such claims allowed.

Claims 6, 11–15, 19–21, 27, 68, and 85–88 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Niederost U.S. Patent No. 4,074,341. During the personal interview Examiner Baxter postulated that the magnetic force of the plug at 15 could be any strength. Applicant's undersigned Attorney pointed out to Examiner Baxter that the purpose of the plug of Niederost is to prevent rotation of the housing 6 relative to the housing 3. The plug of Niederost was not intended to support the housing 6 from the housing 3. See, for example, the paragraph in Niederost beginning at column 1, line 61; the description from column 2, line 27 through column 3, line 48; and elsewhere.

Claims 6, 11, 13, 19, 27, 68, 85, and 86 have been amended to point out the support that is provided by the magnetic device (claims 6, 11, 13, and 27), the second

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attachment (claim 70), and the second holding mechanism (claims 85 and 86). As the plug of Niederost does not provide any support, and it surely does not support the housing 6 from the housing 3, the subject matter of claims 6, 11-15, 19-21, 27, 68, and 85-88 is not anticipated by Niederost. Accordingly, the rejection of such claims should be withdrawn, and such claims allowed.

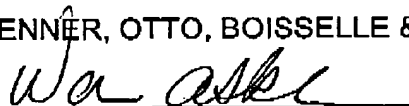
A Petition for three month Extension of Time is filed herewith and the fee for the extension is paid by credit card.

If any additional fee is required, please charge the fee to Applicant's Attorney's Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

If Examiner Baxter has any further questions, she is respectfully requested to telephone Applicant's undersigned Attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATE: October 31, 2005

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Enclosures: Petition For Extension of Time
Credit Card Charge Slip

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